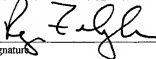


**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION**  
37 C.F.R. § 1.8

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.8, I hereby certify that I have information and a reasonable basis for belief that this paper will be filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office via the USPTO electronic filing system (EFS) on March 13, 2007.

  
Signature

03-13-07  
Date

**PATENT**  
065618.0109

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re patent application of:  
Larry E. Hieb

Serial No.: 10/635,962

Filed: August 7, 2003

For: Retractable Gauge Step for Flexible  
Multi-Depth Vending

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Group No.: 3653

Examiner: Michael E. Butler

**REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)**  
**(37 C.F.R. 1.114)**

Applicant hereby requests continued examination, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.114, for the above-identified application.

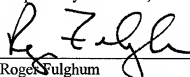
This request is being submitted before (i) the abandonment of this application; (ii) payment of the issue fee; (iii) the filing of a notice of appeal to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit; or (iv) the commencement of a civil action under 35 U.S.C. § 145 or 35 U.S.C. § 146.

Included herewith is an Amendment and Remarks to the Office Action mailed October 13, 2006.

**Petition for Extension of Time**

Applicant petitions for a two-month extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 up to and including March 13, 2007. Applicant hereby authorizes and instructs the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to charge Deposit Account No. 02-0383 (matter 076543.0110) of Baker Botts L.L.P. in the amount of \$1240.00 for the continued examination request fee (\$790.00) and the fee for a two-month extension of time (\$450.00). Applicant hereby authorizes and instructs the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to charge Deposit Account No. 02-0383 (matter 076543.0110) for any additional charges necessary for the filing of this Request for Continued Examination.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Roger Fulghum', is written over a horizontal line.

Roger Fulghum  
Registration No. 39,678

Baker Botts L.L.P.  
910 Louisiana  
One Shell Plaza  
Houston, Texas 77002-4995  
Tel: (713) 229-1707

Date: March 13, 2007

Attorney Docket Number: 065618.0109

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.8, I hereby certify that I have information and a reasonable basis for belief that this paper will be filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office via the USPTO electronic filing system (EFS) on March 13, 2007.

Handwritten signature: kg Fugh Date: 03-13-07